

SPY ACCOUNT IS REPEATED

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Woman Tells House Unit Of Encounter In Soviet

By OSWALD JOHNSON

(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, Nov. 15 — The House Un-American Activities Committee held a special meeting today to hear a young Boston school teacher repeat a 2-year-old confession of how the Russians trapped her into spying for them.

The confession, a tale involving touring Russian ballet dancers, threats from a Soviet intelligence operator in a stark Moscow hotel room, code names and a spy thriller technique of writing secret messages, was apinstakingly read into committee records. Miss Natalie Anna Bienstock, the teacher.

The record was compiled by the committee as part of its continuing effort to compile for its files an exhaustive account of Soviet espionage methods.

Teachers In Boston

Miss Bienstock, 31, who now teaches in an undisclosed Boston private school, was formerly a Russian-speaking interpreter employed by Sol Hurok, the impresario who arranged for the American tours of the Bolshoi and Leningrad Kirov ballet troupes.

Her espionage activities, which lasted for about ten months in 1962, consisted of turning over to a Soviet agent stationed at the Russian United Nations mission in New York the names of American agents who talked with Bolshoi and Kirov dancers.

She eventually admitted this activity to the FBI in a well-publicized confession in December, 1964.

Received No Pay

Miss Bienstock never received any pay from the Russians for her efforts, and FBI investigators were apparently satisfied she never turned over any information of value. No action has ever been taken against her.

At the committee meeting today, Chester D. Smith, counsel in charge of the espionage investigation, led Miss Bienstock through her twice-told tale, leading her along with the help of questions read from a carefully prepared scenario.

There were no surprises in the witness's replies. The confession followed the outline made public by the FBI two years ago in every significant detail.

Grilled By KGB Agent

Briefly, Miss Bienstock recounted how she had been intensively grilled by a KGB agent in a Moscow hotel room near the end of a two-week stay there in March, 1962.

She told how the agent, identified as Victor Sorine, appeared to have a full dossier on her family, who were Russian natives who fled the country after the revolution, and on other relatives, many of whom had died in Communist concentration camps in the years since.

She explained how, faced with the confiscation of her passport and the expiration of her tourist visa and plied with vodka, she was suddenly given a typed statement enrolling her as a Soviet agent.

"I was high on the vodka, and I must say I signed the paper," Miss Bienstock told the committee.

Given Name Of Contact

Then, according to the account, she was given the name of a contact in the United States, Alexander Sorokin, at the United Nations mission in New York—supplied with a code name for herself—"Navzhda," a common Russian nickname.

She was also taught how to hide espionage messages in invisible ink between the typed lines of dummy messages addressed to Sorokin. They would emerge in brown lettering when swabbed with a silver nitrate solution, she said.

According to committee records, Sorokin left the United States in August, 1963. His last contact with Miss Bienstock was the previous February, according to her testimony.

Following the repetition of the story, Representative Tuck (D.,

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